

# Integral solutions of $q$ -difference equations of the hypergeometric type with $|q| = 1$ . \*

Michitomo Nishizawa<sup>†</sup> and Kimio Ueno<sup>‡</sup>

Department of Mathematics,  
School of Science and Engineering,  
Waseda University.

## Abstract

Two integral solutions of  $q$ -difference equations of the hypergeometric type with  $|q| = 1$  are constructed by using the double sine function. One is an integral of the Barnes type and the other is of the Euler type.

## 1 Introduction

The hypergeometric  $q$ -difference equation is one of the most important examples among  $q$ -difference systems and many studies have been achieved [2]. However, these are concerned with the case that  $0 < q < 1$ . In the case of  $|q| = 1$ , studies on  $q$ -difference systems are not sufficiently explored. The difficulty comes from the facts that fundamental functions such as “ $q$ -gamma function” are not known in the case of  $|q| = 1$ .

Recently, Jimbo and Miwa [3] have constructed an integral solution of the quantized Kniznik-Zamolodotikov equation with  $|q| = 1$ . Inspired by the result of Lukyanov [5], they have given an integral solution by means of Kurokawa’s double sine function [4]. From a point of view of  $q$ -analysis, their work is very significant because it is thought of a first step of the study of  $q$ -difference system with  $|q| = 1$ .

In this article, we give two integral solutions of  $q$ -difference equations of the hypergeometric type with  $|q| = 1$ . One is an integral of the Barnes type and the other is of the Euler type. Once we obtain the  $q$ -gamma function with  $|q| = 1$ , we can construct these integral representations in the same way as in the case

---

\*To appear in the proceedings of the workshop “Infinite Analysis” (Oct.15–19, 1996) at the IAS, Japan

<sup>†</sup>694m5035@cfi.waseda.ac.jp

<sup>‡</sup>uenoki@cfi.waseda.ac.jp

that  $0 < q < 1$ . Furthermore we can show that they are solutions of  $q$ -difference equations of the hypergeometric type with  $|q| = 1$ .

This article is organized as follows: In section 2, we give a survey of integral representations of the hypergeometric series and the basic hypergeometric series with  $0 < q < 1$ . In section 3, we define the “ $q$ -gamma function” with  $|q| = 1$  by using the double sine function. In section 4, an integral of the Barnes type is introduced in the case of  $|q| = 1$  and this function is shown to satisfy the hypergeometric  $q$ -difference equation. In section 5, we consider an analogue of Euler’s integral representation. On this consideration, we must regard  $q$ -shifted factorials as the “ $q$ -gamma function” with  $|q| = 1$ , so it is needed to transform a multiplicative variable to an additive variable. This integral gives a solution of the difference equation which is obtained by writing the hypergeometric  $q$ -difference equation by using an additive variable.

We would like to mention that our studies is significant when one considers the representation of the quantum group  $SL_q(2, \mathbf{R})$ . It is known that  $q$  must be  $|q| = 1$  in  $SL_q(2, \mathbf{R})$  (Masuda et.al. [6]), therefore, the harmonic analysis on this quantum group should be closely linked to the hypergeometric  $q$ -difference equation with  $|q| = 1$ .

## 2 Preliminaries

In this section, we give a brief survey of integral representations of the hypergeometric series

$$F(a, b, c; z) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{(a)_k (b)_k}{(c)_k k!} z^k \quad (\text{for } |z| < 1), \quad (1)$$

where  $(a)_k := a(a-1) \cdots (a-k+1)$ , and of the basic hypergeometric series with  $0 < q < 1$

$$\phi(q^a, q^b, q^c; q, z) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{(q^a; q)_k (q^b; q)_k}{(q^c; q)_k (q; q)_k} z^k \quad (\text{for } |z| < 1), \quad (2)$$

nnn where  $(a; q)_k := \prod_{l=0}^k (1 - aq^l)$ .

### 2.1 Barnes’ contour integral representation

Barnes’ contour integral representation is so defined that sum of residue of the integrand is equal to the hypergeometric series.

Let us define  $(-z)^s := \exp(s \log(-z))$ , where we choose such a branch of logarithm that this logarithm takes real value when  $z$  is on negative real line. To define this integral, the following lemma is important.

**Lemma 2.1** (1) *The function  $\pi(-z)^s / \sin \pi s$  has simple poles at  $s = k$  ( $k \in \mathbf{Z}$ ), and the residue there is  $z^k$ .*  
(2). *We have, for  $|z| < 1$ , that*

$$\frac{\pi(-z)^s}{\sin \pi s} = O[\exp\{-|\Im s| \arg(-z)\}] \quad (3)$$

as  $\Im s \rightarrow \infty$  preserving  $|\Re s| < \infty$ .

Let us fix a real number  $\delta$  such that  $0 < \delta < \pi$  and suppose  $z$  to be in a sector  $S_1 := \{z \in \mathbf{C} \mid -\pi + \delta < \arg(-z) < \pi - \delta, |z| < 1\}$ . Barnes' contour integral of the hypergeometric series is given as follows:

$$F(a, b, c; z) = \frac{\Gamma(c)}{\Gamma(a)\Gamma(b)} \left( \frac{-1}{2\pi i} \right) \int_{-i\infty}^{i\infty} \frac{\Gamma(a+s)\Gamma(b+s)}{\Gamma(c+s)\Gamma(s+1)} \frac{\pi(-z)^s}{\sin \pi s} ds \quad (4)$$

where the contour lies on the right of poles

$$s = -an + n \quad s = -b + n \quad (n \in \mathbf{Z}_{\leq 0}) \quad (5)$$

and on the left of poles  $s = m$  ( $m \in \mathbf{Z}_{\geq 0}$ ).

Thanks to the Stirling formula of the gamma function and Lemma 2.1 (2), we can see that the integral (4) converges uniformly in  $S_1$ . Furthermore, by using deformation of the integral contour and residue calculus based on Lemma 2.1 (1), one can show that the integral (4) is the hypergeometric series. For the details, see [9].

Next, we consider a  $q$ -analogue of (4) in the case that  $0 < q < 1$ . Let us put  $q = e^{-2\pi\tau}$  ( $\tau > 0$ ). The counterpart of (4), which is known as Watson's contour integral, is given as follows:

$$\phi(q^a, q^b, q^c; q, z) = \frac{\Gamma(c; q)}{\Gamma(a; q)\Gamma(b; q)} \left( \frac{-1}{2\pi i} \right) \int_{-i\infty}^{i\infty} \frac{\Gamma(a+s; q)\Gamma(b+s; q)}{\Gamma(c+s; q)\Gamma(s+1; q)} \frac{\pi(-z)^s}{\sin \pi s} ds \quad (6)$$

where  $\Gamma(z; q)$  is the  $q$ -gamma function defined by

$$\Gamma(z; q) := \frac{(q; q)_\infty}{(q^z; q)_\infty} (1-q)^{1-z}, \quad (7)$$

and the contour lies on the right of poles

$$s = -a + n_1 + \frac{n_2}{\tau}, \quad s = -b + n_1 + \frac{n_2}{\tau}, \quad (n_1 \in \mathbf{Z}_{\leq 0}, \quad n_2 \in \mathbf{Z})$$

and on the left of poles  $s = m$  ( $m \in \mathbf{Z}_{\geq 0}$ ).

From Lemma 2.1 (2) and the fact that

$$\left| \frac{\Gamma(a+s; q)\Gamma(b+s; q)}{\Gamma(c+s; q)\Gamma(1+s; q)} \right| \leq \text{Const.} \prod_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{(1 + e^{-(c+k+\Re s)\tau})(1 + e^{-(1+k+\Re s)\tau})}{(1 - e^{-(a+k+\Re s)\tau})(1 - e^{-(b+k+\Re s)\tau})},$$

it follows that the integral (6) converges uniformly in  $S_1$ . By using the same technique, one can show that the integral (6) is equal to the basic hypergeometric series [2].

## 2.2 Euler's integral representation

Euler's integral representation for the hypergeometric series is

$$F(a, b, c; z) = \frac{\Gamma(c)}{\Gamma(a)\Gamma(c-b)} \int_0^1 t^{a-1} (1-t)^{c-a-1} (1-zt)^{-b} dt. \quad (8)$$

From the binomial theorem and an integral representation of the beta function, it follows that the integral (8) gives the hypergeometric series.

A  $q$ -analogue of this representation is given, by using the Jackson integral, as follows:

$$\phi(q^a, q^b, q^c; q, z) = \frac{\Gamma(c; q)}{\Gamma(b; q)\Gamma(c-b; q)} \int_0^1 t^b \frac{(tzq^a; q)_\infty (tq; q)_\infty}{(tz; q)_\infty (tq^{c-b}; q)_\infty} \frac{d_q t}{t}. \quad (9)$$

In the same way as the classical case, by using the  $q$ -binomial theorem and the Jackson integral representation of the  $q$ -beta function, we can prove that (9) is equal to the basic hypergeometric series.

## 2.3 The hypergeometric $q$ -difference equations

When  $|q| < 1$ , the basic hypergeometric series  $\phi(q^a, q^b, q^c; q, z)$  is convergent for  $|z| < 1$ , and satisfies the hypergeometric  $q$ -difference equation;

$$(L_q \phi)(z) = 0, \quad (10)$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} [z] &:= \frac{1-q^z}{1-q}, & (T_q f)(z) &:= f(qz), \\ D_q &:= \frac{1-T_q}{(1-q)z}, & [\vartheta + a] &:= \frac{1-q^a T_q}{1-q} \\ L_q &:= z^{-1}[\vartheta][\vartheta + c - 1] - [\vartheta + a][\vartheta + b] \\ &= z(q^c - q^{a+b+1}z)D_q^2 \\ &\quad - \left\{ [c] - \frac{(1-q^a)(1-q^b) - (1-q^{a+b+1})}{1-q} z \right\} D_q - [a][b]. \end{aligned} \quad (11)$$

We should note that the basic hypergeometric series with  $|q| = 1$  is not convergent (so it gives only a formal solution to the hypergeometric  $q$ -difference equation).

## 3 “ $q$ -gamma function” with $|q| = 1$

Let us define a function  $\tilde{\Gamma}(z; q)$  which satisfies

$$\tilde{\Gamma}(z+1; q) = [z]\tilde{\Gamma}(z; q) \quad (12)$$

in the case of  $|q| = 1$ .

For this end, we need the double zeta function  $\zeta_2(s, z|\omega)$ , the double gamma function  $\Gamma_2(z|\omega)$  and the double sine function  $S_2(z|\omega)$  (cf. [1], [3], [4], [8]).

**Definition 3.1** For  $\omega := (\omega_1, \omega_2) \in \mathbf{C}^2$ , we define  $\zeta_2(s, z|\omega)$ ,  $\Gamma_2(z|\omega)$  and  $S_2(z|\omega)$  by

$$\begin{aligned}\zeta_2(s, z|\omega) &:= \sum_{m_1, m_2 \in \mathbf{Z}_{\geq 0}} (z + m_1\omega_1 + m_2\omega_2)^{-s}, \\ \Gamma_2(z|\omega) &:= \exp\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial s}\zeta_2(s, z|\omega)|_{s=0}\right), \\ S_2(z|\omega) &:= \Gamma_2(z|\omega)^{-1}\Gamma_2(\omega_1 + \omega_2 - z|\omega).\end{aligned}$$

It is known that the double sine function satisfies the functional relation

$$\frac{S_2(z + \omega_1|\omega)}{S_2(z|\omega)} = \frac{1}{2 \sin \frac{\pi z}{\omega_2}}. \quad (13)$$

Thus, we can construct a function satisfying (12) by using  $S_2(z|\omega)$ . We suppose that  $|q| = 1$  and that  $q$  is not a root of unity. Let us put  $q = e^{2\pi i\omega}$  ( $0 < \omega < 1, \omega \notin \mathbf{Q}$ ).

**Definition 3.2** We set

$$\tilde{\Gamma}(z; q) := (q - 1)^{1-z} i^{z-1} q^{\frac{z(z-1)}{4}} S_2(z|(1, \frac{1}{\omega}))^{-1}, \quad (14)$$

which has the following properties.

- Proposition 3.3** (1)  $\tilde{\Gamma}(z; q)$  has simple zeros at  $z = n_1 + \frac{n_2}{\omega}$  ( $n_1, n_2 \in \mathbf{Z}_{>0}$ ), and has simple poles at  $z = n_1 + \frac{n_2}{\omega}$  ( $n_1, n_2 \in \mathbf{Z}_{\leq 0}$ ).  
(2)  $\tilde{\Gamma}(z; q)$  satisfies the functional relation (12).  
(3) If we take  $z \rightarrow \infty$  as  $z$  is in any sector not containing real line then  $\tilde{\Gamma}(z; q)$  has the following asymptotic behavior.

$$\begin{aligned}\tilde{\Gamma}(z; q) &= \exp[(1 - z)\log(q - 1) + (z - 1)\log i \\ &\quad + \frac{z(z-1)}{4}\log q \mp \pi i \left\{ \frac{\omega z^2}{2} - \frac{\omega + 1}{2}z \right\} + O(1)] \quad (\text{for } \pm \Im z > 0).\end{aligned}$$

These properties follow from the facts in the papers [3], [8].

**Remark 3.4** In the case that  $0 < q < 1$ , we can also define  $\tilde{\Gamma}(z, q)$  by Definition 3.2 (in this case,  $\omega = it$ ,  $t > 0$ ). Of course, we can see that  $\tilde{\Gamma}(z, q) = C(z, q)\Gamma(z, q)$ , where  $C(z, q)$  is a function satisfying  $C(z + 1, q) = C(z, q)$  (cf. [8]).

## 4 An integral representation of the Barnes type with $|q| = 1$

### 4.1 Definition of the integral

In order that the integral makes sense, we impose some conditions on parameters  $a, b$  and  $c$ .

**Conditions on the parameters** (B1) *If we define sets  $A_1$  and  $A_2$  of the parameters by  $A_1 := \{a, b\}$ ,  $A_2 := \{c, 1\}$ , then we suppose that*

$$''\Re\alpha > \Re\beta \quad \text{for } \forall\alpha \in A_1, \quad \forall\beta \in A_2''$$

or

$$''\Im\alpha \neq \Im\beta \quad \text{for } \forall\alpha \in A_1, \quad \forall\beta \in A_2''$$

(B2) *We suppose that*

$$\omega\Re(a + b - c + 1) < 1.$$

Under these conditions, we can define a function  $\Phi(a, b, c; q, z)$  in the same way as Bernes' contour integral by using  $\tilde{\Gamma}(z, q)$ .

**Definition 4.1** *Let us fix a real number  $\delta$  such that  $0 < \delta < \pi - \pi\omega\Re(a + b - c + 1)$ . For  $z$  in the sector  $S := \{z \in \mathbf{C} \mid -\pi + \delta < \arg(-z) < \pi - 2\pi\omega\Re(a + b - c + 1), |z| < 1\}$ , we define  $\varphi(a, b, c; q; s, z)$  and  $\Phi(a, b, c; q, z)$  by*

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi(a, b, c; q; s, z) &:= \frac{\tilde{\Gamma}(a + s; q)\tilde{\Gamma}(b + s; q)}{\tilde{\Gamma}(c + s; q)\tilde{\Gamma}(1 + s; q)} \frac{\pi(-z)^s}{\sin \pi s} \\ \Phi(a, b, c; q, z) &:= \frac{\tilde{\Gamma}(c; q)}{\tilde{\Gamma}(a; q)\tilde{\Gamma}(b; q)} \left( \frac{-1}{2\pi i} \right) \int_{-i\infty}^{i\infty} \varphi(a, b, c; q; s, z) ds \quad (15) \end{aligned}$$

where the contour lies on the right of poles

$$s = -a + n_1 + \frac{n_2}{\omega}, \quad s = -b + n_1 + \frac{n_2}{\omega} \quad (n_1, n_2 \in \mathbf{Z}_{\leq 0})$$

and on the left of poles

$$\begin{aligned} s = -c + n_1 + \frac{n_2}{\omega}, \quad s = -1 + n_1 + \frac{n_2}{\omega} \quad (n_1, n_2 \in \mathbf{Z}_{>0}), \\ s = m \quad (m \in \mathbf{Z}_{\geq 0}). \end{aligned}$$

By using Lemma 2.1 (2) and Proposition 3.3 (2), it is shown that

$$\varphi(a, b, c; q; s, z) = O[\exp(-\delta|s|)] \quad \text{as } s \rightarrow \pm i\infty$$

under the condition (B1). Thus the integral (15) converges uniformly in  $S$ , and the analytic continuation (also denote  $\Phi(a, b, c; q, z)$ ) defines a many-valued analytic function of  $z$ .

## 4.2 The hypergeometric $q$ -difference equation with $|q| = 1$

We prove that  $\Phi(a, b, c; q, z)$  is a solution of the hypergeometric  $q$ -difference equation with  $|q| = 1$ . We also use the notation (10) in the case that  $|q| = 1$ .

**Theorem 4.2**  $\Phi(z) := \Phi(a, b, c; q, z)$  satisfies the hypergeometric  $q$ -difference equation

$$(L_q \Phi)(z) = 0.$$

*Outline of Proof:* From the condition (B2), it follows that the action of  $L_q$  commute with the integration. On the other hand, straightforward calculation shows that the integrand  $\varphi(a, b, c; q; s, z)$  satisfies the relation

$$(L_q \varphi)(a, b, c; q; s, z) = \varphi(a+1, b+1, c; q; s-1, z) - \varphi(a+1, b+1, c; q; s, z). \quad (16)$$

By means of Cauchy's theorem, one can verify that the integral of the right-hand side of (16) vanishes. ■

## 5 An integral representation of the Euler type with $|q| = 1$

### 5.1 Definition of the integral

First let us recall Euler's integral (9) in the case that  $0 < q < 1$ . If we transform the variables  $z$  and  $t$  in the integrand of (9) to  $q^x$  and  $q^s$  respectively, then we have

$$(\text{the integrand of (9)}) = \text{Const.} \frac{\Gamma(s+x; q)\Gamma(s+c-b; q)}{\Gamma(s+x+a; q)\Gamma(s+1; q)} q^{bs}.$$

Therefore, in the case that  $|q| = 1$ , we consider the integral

$$\int \frac{\tilde{\Gamma}(s+x; q)\tilde{\Gamma}(s+c-b; q)}{\tilde{\Gamma}(s+x+a; q)\tilde{\Gamma}(s+1; q)} q^{bs} ds \quad (17)$$

as a counterpart of (9). In order that the integral makes sense, we impose the following conditions on the parameters  $a, b$  and  $c$ .

**Conditions on the parameters.** (E1)  $b - c \notin \mathbf{R}_{>0}$ , (E2)  $a \notin \mathbf{R}_{<0}$ ,  
(E3)  $\Re b > 0$ ,  $\Re(a - c - 1) > 0$ .

Under these conditions, we can take such a suitable contour that the integral (17) makes sense.

**Definition 5.1** For  $x \notin \mathbf{R}_{<0}$ , we define a function  $\Psi(a, b, c; q, x)$  by

$$\Psi(a, b, c; q, x) := \int_{-i\infty}^{i\infty} \frac{\tilde{\Gamma}(s+x; q)\tilde{\Gamma}(s+c-b; q)}{\tilde{\Gamma}(s+x+a; q)\tilde{\Gamma}(s+1; q)} q^{bs} ds \quad (18)$$

where the contour lies on the right of the poles

$$s = -x + n_1 + \frac{n_2}{\omega}, \quad s = b - c + n_1 + \frac{n_2}{\omega}, \quad (n_1, n_2 \in \mathbf{Z}_{\leq 0}),$$

and on the left of the poles

$$s = -x - a + n_1 + \frac{n_2}{\omega}, \quad s = -1 + n_1 + \frac{n_2}{\omega}, \quad (n_1, n_2 \in \mathbf{Z}_{>0}).$$

Thanks to the conditions (E1) and (E2), we can take the contour of Definition 5.1. From the condition (E3), it follows that the integral (18) converges uniformly and defines a single-valued analytic function of  $x$ .

## 5.2 The difference equation for $\Psi(a, b, c; q, x)$

Let us present an equation which  $\Psi(a, b, c; q, x)$  satisfies. For this end, we write the hypergeometric  $q$ -difference equation by using the “additive” variable  $x$ . We employ the following notations;

$$\begin{aligned} (T_+g)(x) &:= g(x+1), \quad [\vartheta + a]_+ := \frac{1 - q^a T_+}{1 - q} \\ L_+ &:= q^{-x} [\vartheta]_+ [\vartheta + c - 1]_+ - [\vartheta + a]_+ [\vartheta + b]_+ \\ &= \frac{1}{(1 - q)^2} [(q^{c-1-x} - q^{a+b}) \{T_+^2 - (1 + q)T_+ + q\} \\ &\quad - \{(1 - q^c)q^{-x} + (1 - q^a)(1 - q^b) - (1 - q^{a+b+1})\} (T_+ - 1) \\ &\quad - (1 - q^a)(1 - q^b)] \end{aligned}$$

Then the next theorem holds.

**Theorem 5.2**  $\Psi(x) := \Psi(a, b, c; q, x)$  satisfies the difference equation

$$(L_+ \Psi)(x) = 0.$$

This theorem can be proved just like Theorem 5.1.

## References

- [1] E.W.Barnes, *Theory of the double gamma functions*, Phil. Trans. Roy. Soc.A 196 (1901) 265–388



- [2] G.Gasper, M.Rahman, *Basic hypergeometric series*, Encyclopedia of Mathematics and its Applications 35. Cambridge Univ. Press
- [3] M.Jimbo, T.Miwa, *Quantized KZ equation with  $|q| = 1$  and corelation functions of the XXZ model in the gapless regime*, J. Phys. A: Math. Gen. 29 (1996) 2923–2958, RIMS preprint 1058
- [4] N.Kurokawa, *Multiple sine functions and Selberg zeta functions*, Proc. Japan. Acad. 68A (1992) 256–260
- [5] S.Lukyanov, *Free field representation for massive integral models*, Comm. Math. Phys. 167. (1995) 183–226
- [6] T.Masuda, K.Mimachi, Y.Nakagami, M.Noumi, Y.Saburi, K.Ueno, *Unitary representation of the quantum group  $SU_q(1,1)$  : Structure of the dual space  $U_q(sl(2))$* , Lett. Math. Phys. 19. (1990) 187–194
- [7] F.Smirnov, *Form factors in Completely Integral Model of Quantum Field theory*, Advanced series in Mathematical Physics vol. 14 , World Scientific.
- [8] T.Shintani, *On a Kronecker limit formula for real quadratic fields* J. Fac. Sci. Univ. Tokyo Sect. 1A. Vol 24 (1977), pp 167–199
- [9] E.T.Whittaker and G.N.Watson, *A Course of Modern Analysis*, Fourth edition, Cambridge Univ. Press